



CALPEEK

CALIFORNIA POLITICAL WEEK

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CAMPAIGN '98: CAPPS DEFEATS BORDONARO TO WIN 22nd CD SPECIAL. A MAJOR WIN FOR DEMOS.

Editor's note: **Calpeek** sources were correct in predicting a win by Demo Lois Capps over hardline conservative Assemblyman Tom Bordonaro in the Mar. 10th runoff to fill out the unexpired term of Capps' late husband, Walter. Here's our analysis...

...Capps defeated Bordonaro by 12,310 votes --- or **53.11% to 45.14%**. Voter turnout was **46.5%**, with many absentee ballots not counted. The real story of this campaign is that Bordo only beat Capps in the San Luis Obispo part of the 22nd CD by 1,300 votes. That is Bordo's home turf and he really had to mash her here in order to win. He didn't. And in Santa Barbara, Bordo had almost no operation at all. Capps killed Bordo in the Santa Barbara portion of the 22nd CD by 13,694 votes. Demos are now taking a *very hard look* at this entire region for 1998...

...**Winners & Losers**. Capps' team, led by media consultant Bill Carrick, with Garin/Hart/Yang on polling and Susan Burnside handling the key GOTV/field ops, ran a mistake-free campaign. Everything clicked. U.S. House Demo Leader Dick Gephardt is probably a very happy camper too, because the national news media has been trying to spin this special into a preview of what might happen in the fall. However, this spin *doesn't* wash. Other winners: NARAL; Planned Parenthood PAC; Sierra Club; and Americans for Limited Terms, who spent \$320,000 on an IE tv campaign...

...Why was Bordo crushed? **Calpeek** has heard all sorts of *spin* and *finger pointing* the morning after. GOP polling after the primary showed Bordo had a chance. But sources think 2 things went wrong: 1) the campaign didn't have a message for moderate GOP voters from Santa Barbara; and 2) the *fundamentals*

were poorly executed, especially the absentee ballot drill, which is usually a GOP specialty. One source told **Calpeek** that early AV ballot mailers sat at the printer's office for 3 weeks due a dispute between the campaign and the CA Republican Party. But CRP Chair Mike Schroeder says the *snafu* lasted for at most 3-4 days. But there's no doubt there was *tension* between Bordo's campaign and the CRP...

...And there also was tension between Bordo and GOP House Speaker Newt Gingrich. Gingrich's political instincts were better than those who tried to second guess him, including U.S. Rep. John Doolittle, who led the charge for Bordo. Gingrich, as well as some CRP officials, felt moderate Brooks Firestone had a better chance to recapture the 22nd than Bordo because the district tends to be a *moderate* voting district. And thanks to some IE campaigns, such as Gary Bauer's Working Families of America, which spent a ton on tv trying to make abortion the key issue, Bordo was viewed as an *extremist*. This did not sit well with moderate GOPers in Santa Barbara Co. who crossed party lines to vote for Capps. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: HARMAN FORMALLY ANNOUNCES AS GUBERNATORIAL RACE BEGINS TO HEAT UP.

Editor's note: U.S. Rep. Jane Harman(D-Torrance) is getting into the race for governor way late, but many **Calpeek** sources think she has a good shot at winning the Demo nomination. Here's our report & analysis...

...First and foremost: U.S. Sen. Dianne Feinstein(D) has not yet endorsed her good friend Jane Harman, but the look and feel of this campaign has DiFi written all over it --- from media consultant Bill Carrick and campaign strategist Kam Kuwata, to campaign co-chairs Roz Wyman and Demo power broker Bill Wardlaw...

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...But make no mistake, Harman's *centrist politics* may resemble DiFi's, but the 36th CD rep is her own person, with her own set of beliefs/priorities, which she partially outlined. Harman is a pro-business, fiscal conservative (she often votes with GOPers on budget, defense and crime related issues), but is liberal on social issues, such as abortion/gay/civil rights...

...The focus of her Mar. 6th announcement, however, was on **education**. Both the *Sacto BEE* (Dan Smith) and the *San Diego Union Tribune* (John Marelus) used almost the same opening descriptions in their stories: Harman would be **an evangelist for education**. Many of her ideas are just that - *ideas*, without much detail on what her vision might cost. But that will come, sources say. The line which shows Harman's ability to blend the Two Es(economy & education) was this: *Calif. is where the New Economy is being invented. Here we create not just new companies or new jobs, but whole new industries and whole new ways of producing value. In the same way, we must create a New Education for the New Economy.* Like her two Demo rivals, Lt. Gov. Gray Davis & businessman Al Checchi, Harman too sees education as the key issue in '98...

...In terms of a voter support base, Harman's record is such that she's well positioned to win not only Demo women and moderate Demo men, but also pro-choice GOP women too. Emily's List founder Ellen Malcolm said her group will be supporting Harman. In addition, Harman should do well with Jewish voters. As for funding, Harman and her husband have *deep pockets*, although not as deep as Checchi. Sources estimate Harman will spend \$12-15 million in the primary. She is on tv now with two :30-sec. spots...

...Who has endorsed Harman? Demo U.S. House members Dixon, Eshoo, Fazio, Lofgren, Matsui, Miller-McDonald, Pelosi, Roybal-Allard, Sanchez, Stark, Tauscher & Woolsey. She's also been endorsed by State Sen. Hilda Solis and Assemblymembers Susan Davis & Don Perata. Local elected officials who have endorsed Harman are L.A. Co. Sup. Gloria Molina, San Jose Mayor Susan Hammer, Torrance Mayor Dee Hardison and L.A. Councilmembers Laura Chick & Ruth Galanter...

...FYI: Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) did a 3-city announcement tour Mar. 12th with S.F., Sacto & L.A. on the

first day. Smaller cities the next day. On Mar. 26th, Davis delivers a speech to the Commonwealth Club of Calif./Silicon Valley -- *Fixing Calif.'s Broken Schools*, 11:45 a.m., Hilton Hotel, San Jose. Bet your first born that Supt. of Public Inst. Delaine Eastin is just thrilled with the title of this speech. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: CRA ENDORSEMENT CONVENTION.

Editor's note: The Calif. Republican Assembly(CRA) is the State's largest GOP grassroots organization. In other words, CRA members do the grunt work in GOP campaigns. Here's our report about their convention...

...While we tend to think of the CRA as an isolated organization just in Calif., the fact is there other conservative "assembly" groups in about 30-38 states. Over the years, CRA has had its share of big wins --- most recently in the 22nd CD primary, where Assemblyman Tom Bordonaro(R) won the nomination over moderate Brooks Firestone. The core values of CRA are these: 1) anti-abortion; 2) pro-guns; 3) anti-big government; and 4) anti-taxes...

...With its cadre of volunteers, a CRA endorsement in a House or Legislative primary is a big deal. And it's also important in some down-ballot statewide races. That's why just about all statewide GOP candidates showed up at the CRA convention in Torrance Mar. 6-8. The only no show: controller candidate Ruben Barrales, a former BOD of Planned Parenthood in San Mateo Co...

...All the speeches were given on Saturday. Lots of red meat was tossed --- along with mud in some cases. The two nastiest contests were for Treasurer and AG. In the Treasurer's battle, CRA delegates voted **no endorsement**, leaving Curt Pringle with a bruised ego and Jan Goldsmith relieved that CRA stayed neutral. Goldsmith bashed Pringle over the 22nd CD endorsement of Firestone, while Pringle repeatedly blasted Goldsmith for backing Doris Allen for Speaker...

...In the AG's race, sources say the anti-abortion groups blew it when CRA delegates endorsed David Stirling over Mike Capizzi. While there was no chance the CRA would back Capizzi due to his prosecution of GOP Assemblyman Scott Baugh, sources say CRA delegates were **not** well informed of Stirling's position on abortion. According to a CA Pro-Life Council chart, Stirling supports abortion in the first 45 days,

plus exceptions for rape, incest or when the mother's life is in danger...

...CRA endorsements also went to AG Dan Lungren for governor; Sen. Richard Mountjoy for LG; Bill Jones for SOS; but Insurance Comm. Chuck Quackenbush, who is pro-choice, was not endorsed. The big surprise was the CRA's backing of Darrell Issa for U.S. Senate on the first ballot. He got 68%. This is yet another sign that Matt Fong's campaign is in trouble...

...FYI: CRA's counterpart on the Demo side, the Calif. Democratic Council(CDC) held its endorsement convention in San Jose. In contested primaries, CDC endorsements went to Gray Davis for governor; Cruz Bustamante for LG; Bill Lockyer for AG; and Hal Brown for IC. Stay tuned...

FULL METAL JACKET: THE POLITICS OF BANNING ASSAULT WEAPONS FLARES AGAIN IN CALIFORNIA.

Editor's note: As we briefly noted last week, the Court of Appeal in Sacto (Kasler v. Lungren) tossed out the so-called "add on" provisions of the Roberti-Roos law and threw into question the brand name portions of the law as well. Here's our update & analysis, with an emphasis on the *politics of assault weapons*...

...The Appeal decision on Kasler was not unexpected because other courts have thrown out laws based on brand name definitions of what constitutes an assault weapon. Given this trend, our sources believe the entire Roberti-Roos law will be legal toast in the very near future...

...With Roberti-Roos in trouble, AB 23 by Assemblyman Don Perata(D-Oakland) is the only game in town. There should be votes in both Legislative houses in the near future. AB 23 is a complete rewrite of Roberti-Roos and it eliminates all brand names and add on procedures. Instead, it uses generic descriptions to ban assault weapons - such as firepower, rapid-fire control and concealability...

...No telling where AG Dan Lungren(R) is on this bill, because he opposed AB 23 last year --- but that was before the Kasler decision. Ditto Gov. Pete Wilson, who still has Potomac Fever. Politically, most voters and law enforcement groups support AB 23. Polling

data indicates that women and moderate voters will *insist* on state controls on assault weapons and may make assault weapons a core voting issue...

...Sources say AB 23 should have enough votes to pass the upper house, but it will be closer in the assembly where 41 votes are needed. How important is AB 23 to Demo plans to hold the State Senate and Assembly in *Campaign '98*? VERY. The NRA and Gun Owners of Calif. are opposed to AB 23...

...FYI: Sources believe that if AB 23 passes and then is vetoed by Wilson, Demo gubernatorial candidate Al Checchi will unload not only on Wilson, but on Lungren as well, with a *huge media buy*. Stay tuned...

CAMPAIGN '98: UPDATE ON U.S. HOUSE CONTESTS.

Editor's note: Here's another update on the hot U.S. House races in Calif....

☒ **41st CD** - U.S. Rep. Jay Kim(R-Diamond Bar) has been sentenced to a year's probation, plus 2 months of home confinement after work (*house arrest*). The next step is to see if Kim's colleagues in the U.S. House will take any action against him. An editorial in the Mar. 11th *L.A. Times* called on Kim to resign his seat. Kim pled guilty to taking more than \$230,000 in illegal corporate contributions. Kim's wife was given a year's probation too, but here's a twist in this part of the story. The *Daily Bulletin* (Mar. 3rd) reports that the Kims will divorce. According to this story, June Kim did a *tell all* to the foreign language, L.A.-based *Korean Times*. In the same story, Congressman Kim denies the stuff about a divorce and said his wife was under pressure and upset. Not good news for Kim...

☒ **9th CD** - The field is now set in this April 7th special to replace retired Congressman Ron Dellums. The field includes State Sen. Barbara Lee(D-Oakland), Emeryville Councilman Greg Harper(D), Oakland Family Services Director Randal Stewart(D) and Oakland businessman Claiborne (Clay) Sanders(R). Lee is a heavy favorite in this contest...

☒ **44th CD** - The battle to replace the late Sonny Bono has attracted a field of 4 GOPers and 2 Demos. Bono's widow, Mary Bono(R-Palm Springs), is the favorite on the GOP side, but that didn't stop Palm Desert attorney Tom Harney, Dr. John W.J. Overman

of Temecula or Banning businessman Bud Mathewson from filing. On the Demo side, actor/businessman Ralph Waite of Palm Desert faces Palm Springs nurse Anna Nevenich. The special is April 7th...

☒ **36th CD** - Janice Hahn(D) sister of L.A. City Atty. Jim Hahn and a member of the L.A. City Charter Reform Commission, has filed to run in this district. Redondo Beach Councilman Robert Pinzler(D) filed for the 54th AD...

CALPEEK'S INFOBAHN: POLITICAL SHORT TAKES.

Editor's note: Here are a few political items worth noting...

■ **Slot Wars** - Leaders of 11 CA Indian tribes who operate card club casinos with some 7,000 *video slot machines* have blasted a new agreement between Gov. Pete Wilson and the Pala band of Mission Indians. One tribal leader called Wilson the "best governor that Nevada ever had." The new compact on gaming bans the type of slots the tribes currently operate, but would allow a new type of machine which meets current Calif. law. What does it all mean? The odds have *greatly increased* that the tribes who operate video slots will try to qualify an initiative for November. The initiative is due out of the AG's office Mar. 24th. Given the \$4-10 million the tribes will reportedly spend to qualify this measure, sources think a well coordinated qualification drive will succeed. **Las Vegas** is watching closely...

■ **L.A. Co. Sheriff's Debates** - Revised dates for debates between incumbent Sheriff Sherman Block and his 3 challengers. Open to the public are 2 debates sponsored by the Assn. of L.A. Deputy Sheriffs: 6 p.m., Mar. 18, Santa Clarita Ranch House Inn; and 6 p.m. Apr. 15, Cerritos Sr. Center. Century Cable TV's Bill Rosendahl will moderate. Unfortunately, Sheriff Block won't attend, although he did attend the first ALADS debate which was held Mar. 11th...

■ **Initiative Wars** - At their endorsement conventions last week both the conservative CRA and the liberal CDC voted to oppose Props. 223, 224 & 225. They parted company over 226 (CRI) and 227 (end bilingual education): the CDC is opposed to both, while the CRA is in support of both...

NEW JOBS, ADDRESSES AND PERSONNEL NOTICES.

Editor's note: Here are some items to mark down in your notebook. We've got a ton of these notes in our file...

● Ron Gray, communications director for former Speaker Bustamante, has joined Stoorza, Ziegaus, Metzger & Hunt as director of media relations...

● Veteran tv anchor/broadcaster Bob Jimenez and Dr. Jorge Mancillas have formed Icon Imaging, a communications/pr firm. Jimenez can be contacted at (310)838-2586...

● Lt. Gov. Gray Davis(D) has named Christopher Campana as his campaign press secretary...

● Marie Moretti has departed Stoorza, Ziegaus for a job as Exec. VP with the campaign firm of Goddard* Claussen in the firm's Sacto office. (916)448-4234...

● New address for Rod Wilson of Pacific Research & Strategies: 112 Harvard Ave., #176, Claremont, CA 91711. ☎(909)482-0815...

● Silicon Valley-based American Data Management has been hired by the Alabama Demo Party. ADM also handles voter files for Demo parties in Florida, Texas and North Carolina...

● Adler Public Affairs in Long Beach has hired Phil Hampton to be the firm's news bureau mgr. and Carmen Orosco as the firm's production mgr...

● Political fundraiser/business consultant Charles Sena has returned to "Wall Street," joining Merrill Lynch's *private client group* in downtown L.A....

USING A CREDIT CARD TO SUBSCRIBE OR RENEW.

Some Calpeek subscribers have experienced problems with CREDIT CARD payments. Calpeek submits the VISA and/or Mastercard info about once every 3-4 weeks. But *sometimes* it takes many months for the credit card companies to process this information. We are now sending receipts to all subscribers who pay with a credit card. For those who use a corporate card: be sure to ID the card as a corporate card and include the person's name on the corporate card. If you put your name on a corporate card and it doesn't match, this causes delays in processing...